

#70

COMPLETE

**Collector:** Email Invitation 1 (Email)  
**Started:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018 5:41:35 AM  
**Last Modified:** Monday, December 10, 2018 6:47:25 PM  
**Time Spent:** Over a month  
**First Name:** Lisa  
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Page 2: B. Contact Information

**Q1 1. County Name** Los Angeles

**Q2 2. Select the department you are representing.** Probation Department

**Q3 3. Contact Information (Child Welfare)**

Name of Contact Person N/A  
Department Name N/A  
Email Address N/A  
Phone Number N/A

**Q4 4. Contact Information (Probation)**

Name of Contact Person Lisa Campbell-Motton  
Department Name Placement Permanency & QA  
Email Address Lisa.Campbell@probation.lacounty.gov  
Phone Number (323) 240-2435

Page 3: C-1. Overall Recruitment Goals and Congregate Care Reduction Goals

<b>Q5 1. Recruitment goal for non-related caregivers (Child Welfare):</b>	Percent Increase (%)	0
	Number Increase (#)	0

<b>Q6 2. Recruitment goal for non-related caregivers (Probation):</b>	Percent Increase (%)	5
	Number Increase (#)	4

Foster Parent Recruitment, Retention and Support (FPRS) FY 2017-18 Outcomes and FY 2018-19 Allocation  
Plan Report

<b>Q7 3.</b> Recruitment goal for relative/NREFM caregivers (Child Welfare):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>0</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>0</b>
<b>Q8 4.</b> Recruitment goal for relative/NREFM caregivers (Probation):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>10</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>7</b>

Page 4: C-2. Overall Recruitment Goals and Congregate Care Reduction Goals

<b>Q9 1.</b> Recruitment goal for non-related caregivers (Child Welfare):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>0</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>0</b>
<b>Q10 2.</b> Recruitment goal for non-related caregivers (Probation):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>5</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>4</b>
<b>Q11 3.</b> Recruitment goal for relative/NREFM caregivers (Child Welfare):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>0</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>0</b>
<b>Q12 4.</b> Recruitment goal for relative/NREFM caregivers (Probation):	Percent Increase (%)	<b>10</b>
	Number Increase (#)	<b>7</b>

Page 5: C-3. Overall Recruitment Goals and Congregate Care Reduction Goals

<b>Q13 1.</b> How many children in {{ Q1 }} County were in congregate care on June 30, 2018 (include children placed out-of-county)?	Child Welfare	<b>0</b>
	Probation	<b>457</b>
<b>Q14 2.</b> What was the goal for reducing congregate care placements during this time (Child Welfare)?	Percent Decrease (%)	<b>0</b>
	Number Decrease (#)	<b>0</b>
<b>Q15 3.</b> What was the goal for reducing congregate care placements during this time (Probation)?	Percent Decrease (%)	<b>10</b>
	Number Decrease (#)	<b>10</b>

Page 6: C-4. Overall Recruitment Goals and Congregate Care Reduction Goals

<b>Q16 1.</b> How many children in {{ Q1 }} County do you estimate will remain in congregate care on June 30, 2019?	Child Welfare	<b>0</b>
	Probation	<b>420</b>

Page 7: D-1.1 Family Finding

**Q17 1.** Please briefly recap {{ Q1 }} County's FY 2017-18 goals for Family Finding, as outlined in your FY 2017-18 FPRRS plan. Please note if the goals evolved over the course of the year, and any significant insights gained while pursuing these goals. If {{ Q1 }} County did not have a specific goal for Family Finding in FY 2017-18, please briefly explain why a specific goal was not needed.

Our goal for Family Finding was to “Expand Staffing Resources and Services to promote Family Finding and Recruitment/Retention of Resource Families”. Although this is a routine part of what our Placement Officers do, and they have plenty of support in this area through the Out-of-Home Care Provider and Placement Permanency & Quality Assurance, there is still a need to address Family Finding on the front end prior to the youth being placed in residential care. Therefore, we continued to explore how we could utilize and perhaps leverage the FPRRS funds and other Departmental resources to increase staffing resources for upfront family finding and recruitment and will continue to explore this should the FPRRS funds continue.

The other part of this goal focused on expanding services for family finding and recruitment/retention of families and lifelong connections. Many Probation foster youth were already connected to family, and as a result, Los Angeles Probation Child Welfare approved 40 Resource Families for youth who were already connected. We had approximately 10 youth who we found families for through Family Finding efforts. One of the key successes toward improving our family finding practices were several trainings provided by UC Davis, CDSS, and CPOC, and by utilizing the FPRRS, the Probation Department was able to take full advantage of the trainings offered. Additionally, there were at least two statewide convenings held up North that many staff from Los Angeles were able to attend, again utilizing the FPRRS funding. We also utilized the FPRRS funds to purchase computer tablets and provided them to our Resource Families as part of our efforts to retain and support those families who needed computer access to complete paperwork and on-line training. We were also able to support families through other tangible assistance such as rental assistance and furniture. The Department is currently reviewing resource allocation to create an opportunity to put additional Family Finding Resources in place.

Page 8: D-1.2 Family Finding

**Q18 1.** Which specific services and supports did Family Finding activities provide? Select ALL that apply.

- Caregiver Support, Caregiver Training
- Family Finding & Other Databases
- Family Finding Support & Staff
- Marketing,
- Normalizing Activities
- Recruitment & Outreach, Staff Training
- Wraparound

**Q19 2.** Please describe in detail how Family Finding activities were implemented.

We utilized Lexis Nexis, searches on Social Media, interviews with youth, parents, and other family members to identify connections. The most effective Family Finding activity was face-to-face interviews with youth and available family members who assisted in providing critical information that made searches more successful.

<b>Q20</b> 3. Does {{ Q1 }} County have an ongoing sustainability plan for these activities? A sustainability plan can include efforts by {{ Q1 }} County or by other parties.	YES (please describe): Family Finding activities are sustainable but expanding staffing and offering tangible supports in this area remains challenging as the Department is currently addressing the possible funding gap as a result of the sun setting of the Title IV-E waiver. A significant amount of funding and time is necessary to be effective and produce services with quality outcomes, however, this is an initiative that the Department intends to sustain and expand.
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Page 9: D-1.2 Family Finding

<b>Q21</b> 3a. Does {{ Q1 }} County intend to fund these activities after FPRRS funding has ceased?	NO (Please describe alternate methods by which {{ Q1 }} County intends to provide the services and supports by these activities.): Family Finding activities can be funded since they are already an integral piece of CCR and CFTs, but tangible supports such as rental assistance, furniture, extracurricular activities, etc. would not be funded.
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Page 10: D-1.2 Family Finding

**Q22** 4. Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County met its goals.

This goal of family finding has been partially met since we did have some success in locating family members for a few youth. We will continue this goal for FY 18-19, since we have just started to gain momentum through operationalizing the process and embedding the practice as the culture shifts, and we explore ways to fund more permanent solutions for Probation Child Welfare youth.

The goal of expanding services to promote family finding and recruitment/retention was met by approving and connecting families with youth. We had 40 families approved during this timeframe for 40 youth. We were able to meet the goal of expanding services through utilization of the FPRRS funds for services such as quality training and conferences, computer tablets for Resource Families, and supporting families with gap funding, rental assistance, and furniture.

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**Q23** 5. Please describe any advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Family Finding activities.

Quality interviewing with youth and family members proved most effective, and quality training on family finding practice through Denise Goodman and Kevin Campbell. A continued investment in training and quality assurance protocols that produce and support skilled staff able to engage and conduct quality interviews with youth and family members.

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**Q24** 6. Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County did not meet its goals.

Due to the uncertainty of FPRRS funding, the goal of expanding staff resources was not met. We will continue to explore this goal over the FY18/19 as the Department restructures due to the declining foster youth population.

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**Q25 7.** For any unmet goals, tell us the barriers and/or challenges which prevented the goal from being met. Are there any lessons learned from the attempt to meet the goal which may be disseminated to other counties facing similar circumstances?

Barriers/Challenges: The county regulations for obtaining new staff items and reallocating staff items, as well as the fund restrictions and uncertainty of FPRRS for staff items. Difficult time to leverage and/or expand staffing resources as the Department is currently making provisions to absorb an anticipated resource shortfall as a result of the ending of the Title IV-E Waiver.

**Q26 8.** Please describe any noteworthy barriers to implementation, advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Family Finding activities, not already described above.

See above.

Page 11: D-1.3 Family Finding

**Q27 1.** If these activities affected children in care, please enter the number of children affected.

40

**Q28 2.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

Effective connections were made, and 40 children were placed with approved Resource Families.

**Q29 3.** If these activities affected caregivers, please enter the number of caregivers affected.

40

**Q30 4.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

Effective connections were made, and 40 families were approved as Resource Families.

**Q31 5.** Given the outcomes achieved, please describe what (if anything) {{ Q1 }} County would do differently to address its Family Finding goals, or what you intend to change going forward.

Utilize and promote the Permanency Collaboration model with more internal partners to advance current Family Finding efforts. The Permanency Collaboration meets monthly and includes multiple external stakeholders such as Child Welfare, County Counsel, KidSave, Alliance for Children Rights, Seneca Family of Agencies, etc. We are now in the process of identifying Permanency Leads for each Probation Child Welfare office to be a regular stakeholder at the monthly meetings.

Page 12: D-1.4 Family Finding

**Q32 1.** FPRRS - State General Fund

0

**Q33** 2. FPRRS - Federal IV-E

0

**Q34** 3. Non-FPRRS

0

Page 13: D-1.5 Family Finding

<b>Q35</b> 1. Will {{ Q1 }} County continue to address the unmet goals?	<p>YES (Please provide additional information and/or any proposed new activities involved.):</p> <p>Yes, we will continue the Family Recruitment Media Campaign and the utilization of funds to support and retain families and stabilize placements as long as the funding is available.</p>
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<b>Q36</b> 2. Does {{ Q1 }} County have any new goals related to Family Finding for FY 2018-19?	<b>NO</b>
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Page 14: D-2.1 Outreach

**Q37** 1. Please briefly recap {{ Q1 }} County's FY 2017-18 goals for Outreach, as outlined in your FY 2017-18 FPRRS plan. Please note if the goals evolved over the course of the year, and any significant insights gained while pursuing these goals. If {{ Q1 }} County did not have a specific goal for Outreach in FY 2017-18, please briefly explain why a specific goal was not needed.

The goal for outreach was to utilize the Media and Public Website to Recruit Foster Parents, Caregivers and Life-Long Connections. In the early part of the year, we had to obtain Board of Supervisor approval. This was approved with the request to work closely with DCFS on a countywide campaign. Focus groups were conducted with potential families and DCFS and Probation came together to discuss the results of the focus group and prepare next steps. The contracted vendor created a Media Deck that has been shared with Probation and DCFS for feedback, and the next step is the creative phase and launching the campaign. Family Finding is the first and most desired step before recruitment of a family for a youth who has no connections. However, recruited families is the next best thing so that a child can grow up in a family and not in residential care. Therefore, we had two goals in the area of family recruitment, Family Finding and a Media Recruitment Campaign. We found that youth like to meet, develop a relationship, and have a slow transition into the home of someone they were not previously connected to.

Page 15: D-2.2 Outreach

<b>Q38</b> 1. Which specific services and supports did Outreach activities provide? Select ALL that apply.	<p><b>Marketing,</b></p> <p><b>Models for Engagement,</b></p> <p><b>Recruitment &amp; Outreach,</b></p> <p><b>Staff</b></p> <p><b>Training</b></p>
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**Q39 2.** Please describe in detail how Outreach activities were implemented.

We began by ensuring key partners such as the Board of Supervisors and DCFS were closely involved and support this effort. With the support of the Board offices and DCFS, we were able to move forward in securing the contract with the vendor.

**Q40 3.** Does {{ Q1 }} County have an ongoing sustainability plan for these activities? A sustainability plan can include efforts by {{ Q1 }} County or by other parties.

**NO**

Page 16: D-2.2 Outreach

**Q41 3a.** Does {{ Q1 }} County intend to fund these activities after FPRRS funding has ceased?

**Respondent skipped this question**

Page 17: D-2.2 Outreach

**Q42 4.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County met its goals.

The goal was met in that the vendor was secured and phase one was completed; however, we have not yet been able to fully meet the goal of expanding services through our media recruitment campaign. We are just now getting our campaign moving in the right direction after spending a large part of the year obtaining approval and securing the contracted vendor, who is now on board and just starting the creative phase.

**Q43 5.** Please describe any advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Outreach activities.

Best Practices: Ensure a meeting with Procurement, the Board representatives, County Counsel, DCFS and Probation takes place so that everyone is on the same page prior to implementation.

Focus groups and surveys with community stakeholders has added great value to the process.

Additionally, bring all key stakeholders together to agree on the goal and the process before committing to it and ensuring that the goal will be a group effort, and not just the responsibility of one person or agency.

**Q44 6.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County did not meet its goals.

Gaining the approval of the Board of Supervisors and contracting with a vendor is a prescribed process that requires an appropriate alignment of key stakeholders and countywide strategies. Because of the length of time it took to gain approval and contract with the vendor, we were not able to complete the creative phase of the recruitment initiative and run advertisements to actively recruit during the 17/18 year.

**Q45 7.** For any unmet goals, tell us the barriers and/or challenges which prevented the goal from being met. Are there any lessons learned from the attempt to meet the goal which may be disseminated to other counties facing similar circumstances?

Barriers/Challenges: Probation Child Welfare is not typically the lead in the area of recruitment, a role generally held by Child Welfare. There was a lot of myth busting and education that needed to occur among those that were unaware of Probation’s role in child welfare and the equal need for families for Probation foster youth. Probation learned that there was a need to help stake holders understand our role in Child Welfare and the significant need for to recruit families for Probation foster youth.

Lessons learned: You must have at least one BOS Office to support your goals and promote them in order to expedite the approval to expend the funds, especially when hiring a specialized contractor. Ensure a meeting with Procurement, the Board representatives, DCFS and Probation takes place so that everyone is on the same page prior to implementation.

**Q46 8.** Please describe any noteworthy barriers to implementation, advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Outreach activities, not already described above.

See above. Most noteworthy barrier is that Probation Child Welfare may not always be considered a natural part of Child Welfare system.

Page 18: D-2.3 Outreach

**Q47 1.** If these activities affected children in care, please enter the number of children affected.

0

**Q48 2.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

N/A. No children were affected since the campaign has not started.

**Q49 3.** If these activities affected caregivers, please enter the number of caregivers affected.

0

**Q50 4.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

N/A. No caregivers were affected since the campaign has not started.

**Q51 5.** Given the outcomes achieved, please describe what (if anything) {{ Q1 }} County would do differently to address its Outreach goals, or what you intend to change going forward.

Forge alliances amongst all critical partners to develop one County (both DCFS and Probation) FPRRS plan for ALL youth for how the entire team will work together to achieve the goals and that both Departments’ procurement or fiscal teams are at the table for the development of the plan to agree on what mechanisms will be utilized and determine the best way to initiate them quickly and seamlessly. Ensure that Probation foster youth are naturally factored in for all goals, services, and outcomes for all foster youth in the county. The county would like the opportunity to employ outreach efforts based on data and information gained from the Media Recruitment Campaign to develop best practices and to inform sustainability efforts.

Page 19: D-2.4 Outreach

Q52 1. FPRRS - State General Fund

0

Q53 2. FPRRS - Federal IV-E

95753

Q54 3. Non-FPRRS

0

Page 20: D-2.5 Outreach

Q55 1. Will {{ Q1 }} County continue to address the unmet goals?	YES (Please provide additional information and/or any proposed new activities involved.): We will continue the creative phase for both Recruitment of Families and Forever Friends in the new 18/19 year for as long as the funds last.
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Q56 2. Does {{ Q1 }} County have any new goals related to Outreach for FY 2018-19?	NO
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Page 21: D-3.1 Reducing Congregate Care

Q57 1. Please briefly recap {{ Q1 }} County's FY 2017-18 goals for Reducing Congregate Care, as outlined in your FY 2017-18 FPRRS plan. Please note if the goals evolved over the course of the year, and any significant insights gained while pursuing these goals. If {{ Q1 }} County did not have a specific goal for Reducing Congregate Care in FY 2017-18, please briefly explain why a specific goal was not needed.

The goal to reduce congregate care was realized through the proper utilization of ongoing and emergency funds to directly support caregivers and the Expansion of Evidence Based Practices (EBPs); we were successful in utilizing both resources. The EBPs were expanded to caregivers over this year, where in the past, the services were provided to parents and legal guardians only. We spent approximately \$50,000 in gap funding, emergency assistance, rental assistance, and furniture to support Resource Families. The insight gained in providing these supports is that, without them, we will be unable to approve and retain families for children. Once the FPRRS funds are no longer available, our ability to approve and support families will be gone.

Page 22: D-3.2 Reducing Congregate Care

<p><b>Q58</b> 1. Which specific services and supports did Reducing Congregate Care activities provide? Select ALL that apply.</p>	<p>Caregiver Support,</p> <p>Caregiver Training</p> <p>Child Care,</p> <p>Concrete Support,</p> <p>Initial Placement Support,</p> <p>Models for Engagement,</p> <p>Staff Training</p>
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**Q59** 2. Please describe in detail how Reducing Congregate Care activities were implemented.

Reducing congregate care was the direct result of the Resource Family Approval (RFA) Implementation, Wraparound Services, and expanding EBPs, such as Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and Functional Family Probation (FFP) to caregivers. Due to the FPRRS funds provided to approved Resource Family, these children did not have to remain in or return to congregate care.

<p><b>Q60</b> 3. Does {{ Q1 }} County have an ongoing sustainability plan for these activities? A sustainability plan can include efforts by {{ Q1 }} County or by other parties.</p>	<p>YES (please describe):</p> <p>Only for the EBPs, if the waiver is extended and flexible funding is still available. We will not have a source of funding for Emergency and on-going funds for things such as rental assistance, furniture, extracurricular activities, etc.</p>
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Page 23: D-3.2 Reducing Congregate Care

<p><b>Q61</b> 3a. Does {{ Q1 }} County intend to fund these activities after FPRRS funding has ceased?</p>	<p>NO (Please describe alternate methods by which {{ Q1 }} County intends to provide the services and supports by these activities.):</p> <p>No, without Title IV-E Waiver Funds and FPRRS funds, we will not have a budgeted source of funding for Emergency and on-going funds or for the expansion of Evidence Based and Home-Based Practices. We are hopeful that Families First will provide on-going funding for these activities.</p>
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Page 24: D-3.2 Reducing Congregate Care

**Q62** 4. Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County met its goals.

In July of 2017, the population for youth in congregate care was 574, and in June 2018, it had decreased to 449. To date, as of November 19, 2018, it has decreased even further to 378. The utilization of Evidence Based Practices (EBPs), the Dual Jurisdiction Supervision model, and Child Trafficking were tools that assisted in the County meeting its goal.

**Q63 5.** Please describe any advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Reducing Congregate Care activities.

EBPs through Functional Family Therapy and Functional Family Probation has been a critical part of the reduction in the number of youth in congregate care and the ability to reunify more quickly and successfully. Additionally, the Child Trafficking operation with dedicated Probation Officers for youth at risk or involved in CSEC activities has been instrumental. Continual conversations and training with Bench Officers has been a key factor as well.

**Q64 6.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County did not meet its goals.

N/A

**Q65 7.** For any unmet goals, tell us the barriers and/or challenges which prevented the goal from being met. Are there any lessons learned from the attempt to meet the goal which may be disseminated to other counties facing similar circumstances?

N/A

**Q66 8.** Please describe any noteworthy barriers to implementation, advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Reducing Congregate Care activities, not already described above.

EBPs through Functional Family Therapy and Functional Family Probation has been a critical part of the reduction of youth in congregate care and able to reunify more quickly and successfully. Additionally, the Child Trafficking operation with dedicated Probation Officers for youth at risk or involved in CSEC activities has been instrumental. Continual conversations and training with Bench Officers has been a key factor as well. Additionally, the successful implementation of the Resource Family Approval process decreased congregate care and increased the number of youth living with families.

Page 25: D-3.3 Reducing Congregate Care

**Q67 1.** If these activities affected children in care, please enter the number of children affected.

125

**Q68 2.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

Approximately 125 children were affected because they returned to the community to either reside with parents, caregivers, or independent living and have not re-entered care.

**Q69 3.** If these activities affected caregivers, please enter the number of caregivers affected.

40

**Q70** 4. Please briefly state how they were affected.

At least 40 caregivers were affected because they were approved through the RFA process and supported and retained with FPRRS funding.

**Q71** 5. Given the outcomes achieved, please describe what (if anything) {{ Q1 }} County would do differently to address its Reducing Congregate Care goals, or what you intend to change going forward.

Los Angeles County will continue to utilize and rely on both the EBPs and the RFA process. We will not be able to do anything differently with the FPRRS funds; however, should the funds continue, we will expand the support of our Resource Families through caregiver appreciation conferences, support groups, etc. in order increase capacity in family settings for youth as opposed to long-term congregate care. We will also continue to work in close partnership with other County agencies and our stakeholders to effectively align strategies.

Page 26: D-3.4 Reducing Congregate Care

**Q72** 1. FPRRS - State General Fund

0

**Q73** 2. FPRRS - Federal IV-E

20000

**Q74** 3. Non-FPRRS

0

Page 27: D-3.5 Reducing Congregate Care

<b>Q75</b> 1. Will {{ Q1 }} County continue to address the unmet goals?	YES (Please provide additional information and/or any proposed new activities involved.): Due to the current goals finally gaining momentum and producing positive outcomes, Probation Child Welfare does not want to detract from the progress being made with new goals or a new focus.
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<b>Q76</b> 2. Does {{ Q1 }} County have any new goals related to Reducing Congregate Care for FY 2018-19?	<b>NO</b>
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Page 28: D-4.1 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

**Q77 1.** Please briefly recap {{ Q1 }} County's FY 2017-18 goals for Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers, as outlined in your FY 2017-18 FPRRS plan. Please note if the goals evolved over the course of the year, and any significant insights gained while pursuing these goals. If {{ Q1 }} County did not have a specific goal for Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers in FY 2017-18, please briefly explain why a specific goal was not needed.

The goal for this area was Provision of Emergency and On-Going Funds for Immediate Needs and Services for Caregivers and Children and the Forever Friends Permanency Model and Outreach. Due to the time it took to launch the media recruitment campaign, we were unable to recruit for Forever Friends in the manner expected; however, we met our goal of providing tangible supports for Resource Families with the FPRRS funds. The insight gained in providing these supports is that, without them, we will be unable to approve and retain families for children. Once the FPRRS funds are no longer available, our ability to approve and support families will be gone.

Page 29: D-4.2 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

<b>Q78 1.</b> Which specific services and supports did Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers activities provide? Select ALL that apply.	<b>Caregiver Support,</b> <b>Concrete Support,</b> <b>Marketing,</b> <b>Recruitment &amp; Outreach</b>
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**Q79 2.** Please describe in detail how Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers activities were implemented.

We spent approximately \$20,000 of the FPRRS funds for gap funding, emergency assistance, rental assistance, and furniture to support Resource Families. We were also able to secure the vendor for the Media Recruitment Campaign and complete the first phase of the project and spent approximately \$46,000 of the FPRRS funds. We are now in the process of launching the creative phase of the campaign to recruit Resource Families and life-long connections through Forever Friends.

<b>Q80 3.</b> Does {{ Q1 }} County have an ongoing sustainability plan for these activities? A sustainability plan can include efforts by {{ Q1 }} County or by other parties.	<b>NO</b>
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Page 30: D-4.2 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

<b>Q81 3a.</b> Does {{ Q1 }} County intend to fund these activities after FPRRS funding has ceased?	NO (Please describe alternate methods by which {{ Q1 }} County intends to provide the services and supports by these activities.): 2
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Page 31: D-4.2 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

**Q82 4.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County met its goals.

This goal was partially met in that we were able to consistently utilize the FPRRS funds to support and stabilize those placements; however, we were unable to fully recruit Forever Friends due to the time it took to implement the Media Recruitment Campaign, but we plan to implement this goal over the next 6 months.

**Q83 5.** Please describe any advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers activities.

N/A

**Q84 6.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County did not meet its goals.

We were not able to meet the goal of recruiting Forever Friends or implementing the model due to the time needed to process, fully secure, and utilize the specialized vendor for the media recruitment campaign. Unfortunately, we will be unable to meet this goal fully if the FPRRS funds are no longer available, and it is anticipated that congregate care placements will increase.

**Q85 7.** For any unmet goals, tell us the barriers and/or challenges which prevented the goal from being met. Are there any lessons learned from the attempt to meet the goal which may be disseminated to other counties facing similar circumstances?

Barriers/Challenges: The complex County Procurement process and that Probation is not typically the lead in the area of recruitment. There was a lot of myth busting and education that needed to occur among those that were unaware of Probation's role in child welfare and the equal need for families for Probation foster youth. Another most noteworthy barrier is that Probation Child Welfare is not always considered a natural part of Child Welfare.

Lessons learned: You must have at least one Board of Supervisor Office to support your goals and promote them in order to expedite the approval to expend the funds, especially when hiring a specialized contractor. Ensure a meeting with Procurement, the Board representatives, DCFS and Probation takes place so that everyone is on the same page prior to implementation.

**Q86 8.** Please describe any noteworthy barriers to implementation, advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers activities, not already described above.

The major barrier to implementation related to stabilizing placements and removing barriers is the intense trauma endured by older foster youth that make it more difficult for them to overcome mental health challenges and transition into family settings; however, a best practice that Los Angeles utilizes is the team-decision process of the Permanency Collaboration that meets monthly and brings the vast experience of multiple agencies and operations together to conduct specific and challenging case reviews. It is only because of this collaboration that Los Angeles Delinquency Court finalized five (5) adoptions. Another best practice is Probation Child Welfare's Child Trafficking Team. Having a designated Probation Officer and Advocate for each youth who is a victim of or at risk of becoming a Commercially Sexually Exploited Child (CSEC) has stabilized placements, decreased run away incidents, decreased the time frame of run away episodes, and have promoted permanency.

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## Page 32: D-4.3 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

**Q87 1.** If these activities affected children in care, please enter the number of children affected.

40

**Q88 2.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

They were able to be placed with approved Resource Families.

**Q89 3.** If these activities affected caregivers, please enter the number of caregivers affected.

40

**Q90 4.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

They were able to reunify with their loved one, the child placed with them, upon their approval, and they were supported with a dedicated RFA Officer, Probation Officer, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Relative Support Services, as well as tangible supports such as emergency funds for school clothing and supplies, rental assistance, and furniture and household items.

**Q91 5.** Given the outcomes achieved, please describe what (if anything) {{ Q1 }} County would do differently to address its Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers goals, or what you intend to change going forward.

Los Angeles County will continue to utilize and rely on both the support of families through the FPRRS funds and the Media Recruitment Campaign. We will not be able to do anything differently without the FPRRS funds; however, should the funds continue, we will expand the outreach for families and Forever Friends, the Child Trafficking Operation, and the support of our Resource Families through Child and Family Team (CFT) Meetings, caregiver appreciation conferences, support groups, etc. in order promote stabilization of placements and remove barriers.

Page 33: D-4.4 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

**Q92 1.** FPRRS - State General Fund

0

**Q93 2.** FPRRS - Federal IV-E

20000

**Q94 3.** Non-FPRRS

0

Page 34: D-4.5 Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers

<b>Q95 1.</b> Will {{ Q1 }} County continue to address the unmet goals?	YES (Please provide additional information and/or any proposed new activities involved.): The same goals from FY 2017/18 are being continued since they are just gaining momentum and success.
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<b>Q96 2.</b> Does {{ Q1 }} County have any new goals related to Stabilizing Placements/Removing Barriers for FY 2018-19?	<b>NO</b>
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Page 35: D-5.1 Supporting Caregivers

**Q97** 1. Please briefly recap {{ Q1 }} County's FY 2017-18 goals for Supporting Caregivers, as outlined in your FY 2017-18 FPRRS plan. Please note if the goals evolved over the course of the year, and any significant insights gained while pursuing these goals. If {{ Q1 }} County did not have a specific goal for Supporting Caregivers in FY 2017-18, please briefly explain why a specific goal was not needed.

The goal for this area was Provision of Emergency and On-Going Funds for Immediate Needs and Services for Caregivers and Children and the Forever Friends Permanency Model and Outreach. Due to the time it took to launch the media recruitment campaign, we were unable to recruit for Forever Friends in the manner expected; however, we met our goal of providing tangible supports for Resource Families with the FPRRS funds. The insight gained in providing these supports is that, without them, we will be unable to approve and retain families for children. Once the FPRRS funds are no longer available, our ability to approve and support families will be gone.

Page 36: D-5.2 Supporting Caregivers

**Q98** 1. Which specific services and supports did Supporting Caregivers activities provide? Select ALL that apply.

Caregiver Support,  
 Caregiver Training  
 Concrete Support,  
 Staff Training

**Q99** 2. Please describe in detail how Supporting Caregivers activities were implemented.

We spent approximately \$20,000 of the FPRRS funds for gap funding, emergency assistance, rental assistance, and furniture to support Resource Families. Additionally, the RFA Officer and the Probation Officer walked closely and intimately alongside each caregiver and assisted them in every way possible to ensure they were successful in becoming an approved Resource Family. approximately \$5,000 was spent on conference and trainings to assist staff in gaining the tools and knowledge to effectively assess, support and retain caregivers, as well as assist youth to be prepared to successfully live in a family setting.

Without the FPRRS funds, or the availability of alternative funding, these activities will not be able to be sustained. It will not be possible to support the caregivers through the process in the way that will support them to be successful through the entire process.

**Q100** 3. Does {{ Q1 }} County have an ongoing sustainability plan for these activities? A sustainability plan can include efforts by {{ Q1 }} County or by other parties.

NO

Page 37: D-5.2 Supporting Caregivers

**Q101** 3a. Does {{ Q1 }} County intend to fund these activities after FPRRS funding has ceased?

NO (Please describe alternate methods by which {{ Q1 }} County intends to provide the services and supports by these activities.):  
 There are none. All progress made will decline.

Page 38: D-5.2 Supporting Caregivers

**Q102 4.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County met its goals.

The goal of Supporting Caregivers to promote recruitment/retention was met by approving and connecting families with youth. We had 40 families approved during this timeframe for 40 youth. We were able to meet the goal of expanding services through utilization of the FPRRS funds for services such as quality training and conferences, computer tablets for Resource Families, and supporting families with gap funding, rental assistance, and furniture.

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**Q103 5.** Please describe any advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Supporting Caregivers activities.

Los Angeles County secured contracts with CBOs who conducted the Home Assessment Process and Relative Support Services for both Child Welfare and Probation Child Welfare families. However, we had separate funding sources and separate ways of supporting families fiscally. Again, we believe best practice would be for both DCFS and Probation to have one funding source, one plan and one fiscal and procurement process to be able to secure funds consistently and quickly for all family and children in need.

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**Q104 6.** Please briefly summarize how {{ Q1 }} County did not meet its goals.

N/A

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**Q105 7.** For any unmet goals, tell us the barriers and/or challenges which prevented the goal from being met. Are there any lessons learned from the attempt to meet the goal which may be disseminated to other counties facing similar circumstances?

N/A

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**Q106 8.** Please describe any noteworthy barriers to implementation, advice or best practices for other counties that may wish to implement similar Supporting Caregivers activities, not already described above.

A most noteworthy barrier is that Probation Child Welfare may not always be considered a natural part of Child Welfare.

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Page 39: D-5.3 Supporting Caregivers

**Q107 1.** If these activities affected children in care, please enter the number of children affected.

40

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**Q108 2.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

They were able to be placed with approved Resource Families.

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**Q109 3.** If these activities affected caregivers, please enter the number of caregivers affected.

40

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**Q110 4.** Please briefly state how they were affected.

We spent approximately \$20,000 of the FPRRS funds for gap funding, emergency assistance, rental assistance, and furniture to support Resource Families. Additionally, the RFA Officer and the Probation Officer walked closely and intimately alongside each caregiver and assisted them in every way possible to ensure they were successful in becoming an approved Resource Family.

**Q111 5.** Given the outcomes achieved, please describe what (if anything) {{ Q1 }} County would do differently to address its Supporting Caregivers goals, or what you intend to change going forward.

Los Angeles County will continue to utilize and rely on both the support of families through the FPRRS funds and the Media Recruitment Campaign. We will not be able to do anything differently without the FPRRS funds, unless an alternative source of funding can be identified; however, should the FPRRS funds continue, we will expand the outreach for families and Forever Friends, the Child Trafficking Operation, and the support of our Resource Families through Child and Family Team (CFT) Meetings, caregiver appreciation conferences, support groups, etc. in order promote stabilization of placements and remove barriers.

Page 40: D-5.4 Supporting Caregivers

**Q112 1.** FPRRS - State General Fund

0

**Q113 2.** FPRRS - Federal IV-E

20000

**Q114 3.** Non-FPRRS

0

Page 41: D-5.5 Supporting Caregivers

**Q115 1.** Will {{ Q1 }} County continue to address the unmet goals?

YES (Please provide additional information and/or any proposed new activities involved.):  
Yes, the same goals from FY 2017/18 are being continued since they are just gaining momentum and success.

**Q116 2.** Does {{ Q1 }} County have any new goals related to Supporting Caregivers for FY 2018-19?

**NO**

Page 42: E. Comments

**Q117** Please use the box below for any comments, questions, or concerns about the survey or the use of Survey Monkey.

We do not feel that Survey Monkey is the best way to complete this report. It was much too difficult to share the report sections among the multiple authors needed to complete and approve the report and to be able to report out qualitative data effectively. Thank you so much for the opportunity to provide our outcomes, barriers and successes. Take care and we wish you a glorious and blessed Holiday Season and a very Happy New Year!!

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